

The Greenfield Community College NEWSLETTER

Winter-Spring 1989



January's happy Business Microcomputer graduates, and a few of their loyal supporters. (Barry Mulholland photo)

Fifteen women complete computer training program

Fifteen women celebrated their completion of the Business Microcomputer Application (BMA) program at a College ceremony in January. The event was a family affair attended by children, parents and friends of graduates.

Launched in January, 1987, the BMA program has been recognized as one of the most successful vocational education programs in the state, according to its coordinator Betsy Averill. Some 54 people have completed the program, which is designed to provide single parents, displaced homemakers and welfare recipients with entry level computer skills in word processing, data base management and computer-based accounting. Students also attend workshops on job skills, resume preparation and time management.

Twenty BMA graduates are now self-supporting as a result of the program, Averill says, and many have stayed on at GCC to continue their education. As a group, BMA students have maintained high grade point averages, and many consistently earn dean's list standing. The grade point average of this January's graduating class is 3.4 and three graduates made the dean's list.

Editor's note

The GCC Newsletter, whose funds were cut in the most recent round of state budget reversions, received a reprieve this month when the Greenfield Community College Foundation agreed to fund the next two issues. We thank the Foundation for its generous support.

GCC in Jamaica: Yea, Mon!

It was a tough job, but someone had to do it, and Carolyn Nims, GCC's foreign student advisor seemed to be the perfect person to travel to Lucea (pronounced "Lucy"), Jamaica and establish links between the island and Greenfield Community College.

Nims and nursing student Robin Booth were the college's first participants in the Cultural Awareness Experience, a "mini-Peace Corps" program in which college representatives work and live with host families in underdeveloped countries.

Nims and Booth were greeted upon arrival in Montego Bay by representatives of the local Rotary Club, which had helped sponsor their visit. A total of 35 U.S. representatives, including students and faculty members from the University of Texas at Austin, participated in the January program.

Jamaica is the largest island in the Caribbean, with an economy that is based largely on tourism and agriculture. Unemployment is high, and the island's coffee, banana and other crops were particularly hard hit by last fall's Hurricane Gilbert. Gilbert's effects were still visible when Nims and Booth arrived on the island, and their first job was to reconstruct a local elementary school.

"We wondered why it had taken so long to reconstruct the school," Nims said, "but the rule down here is that it had to be left exactly as Gilbert left it in order to have the government do anything about it. It had taken that long just to get the materials."

The group went to work on Friday, repairing desks, putting up new blackboards, repairing the roof, and cleaning, and by

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Greenfield Community College has taken to the cable television airwaves. The college Media Center is currently producing two half-hour weekly interview shows using student crews, and producer Garry Longe is developing a third show, which he says will be more entertainment-oriented.

"Talk In," hosted by Dr. Arthur Shaw, is one of the longest-running talk shows in Franklin County. "Talk In" began as a radio program, and most recently has evolved into a cable television show. Shaw, an economics and history professor, interviews local personalities and business and community leaders from Franklin County. The show is aired Wednesdays at 12 noon and 7 p.m. on Greenfield Cable Channel 6.

The newest addition to the GCC television line-up is "Main Street," which is hosted by B.J. Roche, public relations officer at GCC. The show includes on-the-street interviews conducted by student journalists and camera crews, as well as a discussion with GCC and community experts about issues of personal, local and national interest.

"Main Street" is broadcast in Greenfield Thursdays at 12 noon and 7 p.m., and on Amherst Cable Channel 10, Thursdays at 7:30 p.m. Thanks to a program exchange with GCC media grad Dohn Chapman, the program is being shown in Santa Fe, N.M., and plans are currently underway to broadcast the show in Northampton and Brattleboro as well.

Longe says cable access channels in the region offer some unique opportunities for student productions to reach larger audiences.

"We were surprised by the success of 'Main Street,' and we've had a strong public response," Longe says. "People

have gotten to know us just from the appearance of cameras on the street. Now when we interview people, many are already aware of the show, even though there has been little publicity out on it."

Some of the subjects presented include alcoholism, career changing, interpersonal communication, affordable housing, the comedian boom, and literacy. Upcoming shows will include an interview with GCC president Katherine H. Sloan; an episode on back problems with Jim Allen, who teaches a workshop on healthy backs at the Greenfield YMCA; and coping strategies for two-career families with GCC Learning Center counselor David Patrick and Learning Center Director Barbara McColgan.

--Jamaica

Cont. from page 1.

Monday, the students were in their classrooms.

The second week, Nims and Booth were assigned to different area schools and worked developing recreational programs and arts and crafts activities for the children. In the evenings, Nims and Booth would attend lectures about the cultural and political life of Jamaica, and meet with community members.

Nims also met with Dr. Lorna Nembhard, principal of Montego Bay Community College, one of four on the island.

"I was dying to see what the college would be like," Nims said. "There are about 600 day students, and students wear uniforms there. I spent several hours talking with Dr. Nembhard and she would love to have a student and staffmember exchange."

Nims, who never seems to quit working, also recruited two potential GCC foreign students while visiting the island, and is enthusiastic about furthering links between Greenfield and the Caribbean.

"For next year, for any of our faculty or students who are interested in going, it would be a very different kind of vacation," she said. "It's jam-packed with all kinds of experiences and memories of a

Among the current or past GCC faculty and staff who have appeared on the show are Health Services nurse Susan McCarthy, English professor Saul Greenblatt, and Lindy Whiton, co-founder and former director of the Literacy Project

The students involved in the projects are: camerapeople Jotaere Deyefe, Barry Mulholland, Richard Tirrell, Mark Davis, Shelly Chen, Edgar Sabogal, Tim Flahive and Nancy Pelis; and interviewers Rae Davis and Adrienne Bramhall. The show's theme music was composed and performed by music student Eric Malone.

Longe is hoping to gain enough student interest to launch an entertainment-oriented variety program in the spring.

different culture, and you really get into great depth living with a host family. It's a wonderful learning experience and something you never forget."

Those interested in learning more about the Cultural Awareness Experience should contact Nims or Dean Hyrum Huskey, Jr.

FINANCIAL AID WORKSHOPS

GCC Financial Aid Director Jane Abbott will give four workshops on "How to Complete Your Financial Aid Form," for area residents and faculty and staff who have children applying for college financial aid. The workshops will be held in Room C 129 on February 8, from 12 noon to 2 p.m. March 9 from 12:15 p.m. until 2:15 p.m., March 29, from 12 noon to 2 p.m., and April 6 from 12:15 until 2:15 p.m. For more information contact Abbott at extension 235.

STAFF

Editor: B.J. Roche

Editorial Assistant: Doug Ross

Editorial consultant: Bob Merriam

Production consultant: Tom Boisvert

FACULTY AND STAFF NEWS

Congratulations to **Merryl Sackin** and the **gang at Student Activities** that keeps us entertained and well-informed with an amazing variety and number of posters. The group won some well-earned recognition at the Fall 1988 New England Regional Conference of the National Association for Campus Activities, and student **Dawna Wilcox** won first place for her poster advertising the college's New York trip. It was the first time a Community College has ever won such an award...

Math prof **Lynn Benander** recently joined the board of directors of the New England Learning Center for Women in Transition (NELCWIT). Also this fall, Benander began a term as Government Relations Representative for Women in Math Education, an affiliate organization of the National Council of Teachers of Mathematics. She will be making a presentation at the group's annual conference in Orlando, Florida, this April... **Bob Schilling** has been appointed by President Katherine Sloan as the director of information systems beginning July 1. Schilling currently serves as director of academic computing, and he will take over in this newly-developed position from **Frank Mirabello**, who is retiring at the end of this year....

Director of Nursing **Margaret Craig** and Learning Assistance Program Director **Barbara McColgan** have been selected to attend the National Institute for Leadership

Development, a program designed for women faculty members and administrators at community colleges across the country.

IN PRINT: "An Untapped Resource: The Political Potential of Nurses," by Nursing prof **Eileen Hayes, R.N., M.S.N.**, appeared in the Fall 1988 issue of *Nursing Administration Quarterly*... Art prof **Tom Young**, whose works have appeared in galleries in Germany, Switzerland, London, New York, San Francisco and Miami in recent months, was mentioned as a talent to watch in a recent *Boston Sunday Globe* article on trends in art and photography.... Library chief **Pegge Howland** was featured in a recent Associated Press report on the Archibald MacLeish Collection. The story appeared in *The Boston Globe* and in other newspapers around New England... Assistant to the President **Bob Merriam** was the subject of an article (and a rather large photograph!) in the *Springfield Union-News* about his book business and the interest in miniature books.

In Memoriam

The college community extends its thoughts and prayers to the families of custodian Robert "Bob" Roberge and former trustee Christopher J. Tremblay. The contributions of both men will be missed...

Lecture series returns this spring

Aspects of the Academy, the Greenfield Community College faculty and staff lecture series, goes into its second year this semester, with three lectures by GCC faculty members. All lectures will be held at 12 noon in the GCC Lecture Hall.

The series opens on February 10 with "To Russia With Love: The Academy Travels," a presentation by nursing faculty member Judy Kinley. Kinley traveled to the Soviet Union last October as a member of the U.S.-U.S.S.R. Bridges for Peace Exchange Project. She will talk about the history, culture and traditions of Estonia, evidence of Glasnost and Perestroika, and the humorous and enlightening encounters she had with the Soviet people.

In his March 3 lecture, professor George Bluh will explore "China: Many Lands, Many Peoples." Bluh, who has led several tours of China, will discuss the country's geography and landscape, and the peoples and experiences that have shaped the cultures within China.

"Exploring Creativity," or "Seeing with Your Mind's Eye," is the title of James Manilla's lecture on April 7. Manilla, who is a filmmaker and teaches in the Division of Continuing Education, and will discuss creativity and discovering the creative resources within ourselves.

The lectures are free, and the public is welcome to attend.

Artbus to MFA Goya show March 11

Though she "retired" last year, art professor emeritus Joan Rising is launching a new program in conjunction with the Division of Continuing Education and the Art Department. The ARTBUS will make its first tour of the season on Saturday, March 11, to the special exhibition of the works of Spanish painter Francisco Goya at the Museum of Fine Arts in Boston, and to the nearby Gardner Museum.

On Wednesday, March 8, Rising will give a slide lecture on Goya and his works, as well as works of interest at the Gardner Museum. There will be no lectures in the museums proper.

For registration and information, contact the Division of Continuing Education.

Staff development update

The following staff members have been awarded grants from the Staff Development Committee, which is funded by the GCC Foundation:

Jane Abbott, Mary Bell, Joanne Shaw, Pat Jurek, Jane Filkins, to attend a one-day seminar on "How to Give Exceptional Service."

Michael Bathory to attend conferences on Adult Children of Alcoholics and Transference and Countertransference.

Mary Ellen Kelly to attend conferences on Loss of Childhood, Young Children, and Adult Children of Alcoholics.

Dennis Koonz for lab fees and expenses for a course in educational media.

Lynn Benander to attend the national convention of the National Council of Teachers of Mathematics.

The deadline for submission of application for the next round of grants is February 24, 1989 at noon. See your division representative for details.

EVENTS

FEBRUARY

6, 8, 13, 15 A Celebration of Black History: "Eyes on the Prize," a documentary about the American Civil Rights movement will be featured at 12 noon in room N 426.

9 Pre-Valentines Day Toga Dance: Wear your toga! 8 p.m., GCC Cafeteria. \$1.00 with GCC student I.D. \$2.00 for public.

10 Aspects of the Academy Lecture: "To Russia with Love" by nursing prof Judy Kinley, tells of her journey to Russia with the U.S.-U.S.S.R. Bridges for Peace Project. 12 noon, GCC Lecture Hall.

13 Lecture: America Sosa of CoMadres, the Committee of Mothers of the Disappeared in El Salvador, 12 noon, Lecture Hall.

13 & 14 GCC Valentine underwear sale, 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. in the lobby.

15 Concert: Hot Acoustics, a duo performing with electric violin and acoustic guitar, 12 noon to 1 p.m., GCC Cafeteria.

21 Children's Vacation Film: "Born Free," 12:15 p.m., Student Lounge.

22 Children's Vacation Film: "Old Yeller," 12 noon, Student Lounge.

23 TAX HELP: GCC students can have their Massachusetts state taxes done for free 10 a.m. to 3 p.m., room C129.

6-10 INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S WEEK: watch for activities!

8 Film: "Still Killing Us Softly," 12 noon, Lecture Hall.

21 Legislator's Day: Community college activists from around the state to meet at the state house in Boston.

22 Addictions Day: Learn how to recognize and address problems arising from gambling, overeating, alcohol and drug abuse, and compulsive spending at this informational day sponsored by Health Service. 9 a.m. to 12 noon, college lobby.

22 Performance: FOODFRIGHT, a cabaret show combining original music, humor and personal narratives to explore anorexia, bulimia and the many pressures placed on women to be thin. Don't miss it! 12 noon, room S01.

MARCH

3 Aspects of the Academy Lecture: "China: Many Lands, Many Peoples," by George Bluh, 12 noon, Lecture Hall.

Greenfield Community College
One College Drive
Greenfield, MA 01301

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